

FIRST
ANNUAL REPORT
OF THE TRUSTEES OF THE
INDIANA INSTITUTE
FOR THE
EDUCATION OF THE BLIND
TO THE
GENERAL ASSEMBLY.

DECEMBER 8, 1847.

INDIANAPOLIS:
JOHN D. DEFREES, STATE PRINTER.
1847.

INDIANA INSTITUTE

FOR THE EDUCATION OF THE BLIND.

THE ABOVE NAMED SCHOOL HAS BEEN ESTABLISHED AT INDIANAPOLIS, UNDER AN ACT OF THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY, PASSED IN JANUARY, 1847. ITS OBJECT IS, TO PROVIDE FOR ALL THE BLIND CHILDREN OF THE STATE, WHETHER RICH OR POOR, A LIBERAL EDUCATION AND A USEFUL TRADE.

FOR PARTICULAR INFORMATION AS TO TERMS, &c., ADDRESS THE TRUSTEES OR THE PRINCIPAL OF THE INSTITUTE.

INDIAN INSTITUTE

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OFFICERS OF THE INSTITUTE.

TRUSTEES:

GEORGE W. MEARS, *Chairman.*

SETON W. NORRIS, *Treasurer.*

JAMES M. RAY, *Secretary.*

DRS. MEARS & BULLARD, *Visiting Physicians.*

ACTING PRINCIPAL.

W. H. CHURCHMAN.

L. S. NEWELL, *Teacher of Music.*

CALEB SCUDDER, *Steward and Master of Handicraft.*

SAMUEL McGIFFIN, *Assistant Mechanic.*

MRS. MARGARET DEMOSS, *Matron and Mistress of Handicraft.*

MISS SARAH MARSH, *Assistant.*

OFFICERS OF THE INSTITUTE

THIRTEEN

GEORGE W. HARRIS, President
SEYMOUR W. HARRIS, Secretary
JAMES M. HARRIS, Treasurer

THE HARRIS & HARRIS, 170 N. 1st St.

JOHN HARRIS, 170 N. 1st St.

W. B. HARRIS, 170 N. 1st St.

J. E. HARRIS, 170 N. 1st St.

CARL HARRIS, 170 N. 1st St.

WALTER HARRIS, 170 N. 1st St.

JOHN HARRIS, 170 N. 1st St.

THE HARRIS & HARRIS, 170 N. 1st St.

REPORT.

To the General Assembly of the State of Indiana :

Conformably with the provisions of the law passed by the last General Assembly, for the establishment of an Institute for the education of the Blind, the Trustees thereof present their first Annual Report, and are gratified with the privilege of stating, that the contemplated Institute has been recently commenced, under very favorable auspices ; and we trust that the expectations of the Legislature and the people of the State, as to this benevolent undertaking, will prove to have been, thus far, fully realized.

The peculiarity of the condition of the blind, whom it is the object of the General Assembly to relieve, in being not only without any valuable education, but entirely helpless and dependant, involves necessarily larger expenditures than are required in other Institutions for the afflicted, including in the arrangements for their education, their being trained to mechanical and handicraft employments, and, so far as susceptible, to musical skill.

The mute, when educated, is prepared in many departments of life to sustain himself by industry ; but for the blind to be dismissed from the guardian care of the State, with simply the qualification of a reader with the use of raised letters, the few books of which are yet scarce and costly, only returns him to his former helplessness with a keener sense of his deprivation, and a deeper mortification as to his dependence.

The Trustees appointed by the law above referred to, were organized soon after its passage, and having the views of the duties expected of them above presented, were solicitous to secure the objects of their trust in the most judicious and economical manner.

As the School apparatus, books, &c., for the use of the Institute would be generally of a kind peculiar to the object, and only to be

procured at the East, and as much advantage in prices would be gained by the purchase there also of the more ordinary articles for furnishing the Institute and the workshop for mechanical and manufacturing operations, it was deemed expedient to engage Mr. William H. Churchman as our Agent, at a cost only sufficient to defray the expenses of himself and family during his visit to the Eastern Cities and Institutions for the blind, and to commit the necessary purchases there to his charge.

Much valuable information would also be thus acquired with regard to the progress of improvements in relation to buildings, as well as the general operations of other Institutions.

Mr. Churchman had been very favorably introduced to the last General Assembly and to this Board by our predecessors, under whom he had been successfully engaged in procuring blind pupils in the State to be sent to the Institutions in Ohio and Kentucky.

We are gratified in being enabled to state, that the expectations of the Board have been in every respect fulfilled in Mr. Churchman's agency, and his expenditures for the Institute have been appropriate and judicious.

The kind and assiduous attention of Mr. Richard Price, of Philadelphia, to the disbursements, was of much value, and was most cheerfully, as well as gratuitously bestowed, as were also many valuable services by others, to all of whom the Trustees have much pleasure in making this grateful acknowledgement.

For the liberality of the American Bible Society, in presenting several expensive copies of the Holy Scriptures in raised letters, and other Institutions making to us valuable donations, we feel deeply grateful.

Strict economy, in connexion with care and judicious discretion in procuring every thing needful of the most recently approved kind, has been our desire, and it is believed, in this, we have been in a great degree successful.

We were disappointed in not procuring the only building that could be rented, in any degree suitable for the use of the Institute, on more favorable terms; and this, connected with the uncertainty of its tenure, and the embarrassment in conducting the operations in the best manner, where we are straitened for room, with but a limited portion of the blind entitled to the privileges contemplated, will form, we trust, a strong inducement to the early commencement of a suitable and permanent building and accommodations for the Institute.

To provide, as far as practicable, in present circumstances, for early attention to mechanical and handicraft employment, it became necessary to put up a building for a workshop on the rented premises, which, together with the purchases needful to be made at this place in furnishing, we have endeavored, by inviting competition, to provide in the most economical manner. This building, with any other fixtures added by us, we have the right to remove from the premises.

The following summary compiled from the Treasurer's account current, exhibits the expenditures connected with the organization of the Institute, and thus far with its progress.

The materials for manufacture are included in the purchases, which we expect to have returned to the Institute with the additional value of the labor of the pupils; so that when the operations of this department are fully developed, its income will be an important deduction, if not an entire discharge of its current expenses.

SUMMARY OF EXPENDITURES.

EXPENDED FOR HOUSEHOLD DEPARTMENT AS FOLLOWS:

For cabinet furniture, - - -	- \$547 58	
For bedding and sundry dry goods \$600 52½,		
less \$93 60 for goods disposed of, - -	506 92½	
For goods bought of N. McCarty \$170 38, less		
\$115 27½ for goods disposed of, - -	55 11½	
For carpeting, - - -	96 07	
For stoves and trimmings, - - -	217 16	
For hardware, - - -	60 96	
For crockery, - - -	39 16	
For tinware, - - -	27 20	
For sundry small articles, - - -	45 62	
For groceries and provisions, - - -	395 29	
For wood, - - -	105 00	
For wages of domestics, - - -	90 61	
	<hr/>	2,176 69

SCHOOL DEPARTMENT.

For books, apparatus, &c., - - -	106 93	
For school furniture, - - -	88 93	
For piano fortes, - - -	340 00	
	<hr/>	535 86

WORK DEPARTMENT.

For tools and fixtures, - - -	288 90	
For raw material, - - -	222 17	
	<hr/>	511 07
For building workshop, - - -	295 00	
For sundry other improvements, - - -	181 51	
	<hr/>	476 51
For freight and other expenses on goods bought East,	223 90	
For first payment on site for Institute, - - -	1,537 50	
For salary of Agent in organizing Institute, - - -	328 33	

For one quarter's rent, - - - - -	125 00
For traveling expenses of Instructors from Pennsylvania Institutions, - - - - -	66 50
For blank-books and stationery, - - - - -	28 67
For printing sundry advertisements, - - - - -	25 78
For exchange on Eastern drafts, - - - - -	18 44
For postage, - - - - -	5 09
For sundries, - - - - -	4 50
	<hr/>
	<u>\$6,063 93</u>

In organizing the Institute we appointed Mr. William H. Churchman, Teacher with the powers of Principal for one year from such commencement, at a salary of eight hundred dollars, together with boarding in the Institute for himself and family. With the faithful and judicious discharge of his undertaking in the agency of the Board and the favorable commencement of the operations of the Institute in all its departments, under his direction, we are highly gratified.

His well cultivated mind, and correct deportment give encouraging evidence of what may be done for the blind, as well as promise of their capacity for instructing others, and these are much increased by the manifest talent and tact of such of the assistants as we have appointed, for instruction in music and handicraft, as are also deprived of sight.

These assistants are, Mr. L. S. Newell, Instructor in Music, at a salary of three hundred dollars, from the Ohio Institute; Samuel McGiffin, assistant Mechanic at a salary of one hundred and fifty dollars for the first year, and two hundred dollars thereafter: and Miss Sarah Marsh, assistant Teacher of Handicraft at a salary of fifty dollars, each from the Pennsylvania Institution. Boarding and washing in the Institute is also provided. These Assistants have been highly recommended, for their respective stations, by officers of the Institution with which they have been connected. Their attainments and deportment are very satisfactory.

Ascertaining that none of the Principals, appointed by the Trustees of the Institutions for the blind in other States, are themselves deprived of sight, we deemed it judicious, although we were exceedingly pleased and surprised with Mr. Churchman's attainments and efficiency, to make his appointment that of Teacher, with the powers of a provisional Principal.

The other stations have been filled by the appointment of Mr. Caleb Scudder Steward, and Master of Handicraft, with the assistance of Mrs. Scudder, at a salary of five hundred dollars and boarding: and Mrs. Margaret Demoss Matron and Mistress of Handicraft, at a salary of two hundred dollars and boarding: These persons have been long and favorably known to this community, and are deemed well fitted for the discharge of their respective duties.

It is our purpose to secure the highest efficiency in every depart-

ment, in connection with judicious economy, and we are encouraged to hope, that the Genral Assembly, as well as the friends of the pupils, will be gratified with the results of the operations of the Institute, in their further progress. We feel entire confidence in assuring the friends of the blind, that the pupils will receive the utmost kindness and care from all persons having charge of them in the Institute.

It is pleasant to have the privilege of stating, that while the cheerful activity and applicatio of the pupils give evidence of their appreciating their privileges, their good deportment manifestly proves the success of their Teachers.

In addition to an invitation to the pupils of the State, who had been previously supported at the Institutions for the blind in Ohio and Kentucky, to take their places in the Institute, we published a notice of its commencement in several newspapers, inviting the attention and co-operation of the friends of such of the blind in the State, as were suitable for pupils.

Most of the State pupils from the adjoining States have returned. The Institute was opened on the first day of October last with nine pupils, and its present number is twenty-five. Several others, who are favorable cases, have been heard of, and may be soon expected.

Our apprehension is, that until a permanent building is erected for the Institute, we will be compelled to deny the privileges contemplated in its establishment, for the unfortunate blind, by the General Assembly, to many, who are entirely susceptible of education.

It is not the design of the Institute to take charge of such of the blind of the State, as from age or other incapacity are not susceptible of valuable training; but it is trusted, that every aid, in the power of the Legislature appropriately to bestow, for expediting the erection of a needful building for the accommodation of all suitable applicants (which will necessarily require some years for its completion,) will be given.

Among the objects of our early solicitude, was the selection of an appropriate site for the permanent location of the Institute, and we were successful in procuring on favorable terms, grounds in every respect unrivalled in this vicinity for the object, affording a handsome site for appropriate buildings, and abundant room for all future wants, both for outgrounds, for workshops, accommodation and exercise of pupils.

The tract adjoins Indianapolis on the north, is enclosed, has a brick building on it, and contains about eight acres.

In procuring this area of ground, the Trustees were partly influenced by the example of the Trustees of the excellent Institution for the blind in Ohio, who originally procured nine acres for their site, and yet in the last annual report remark, that it is very desirable that the grounds of their institution should be enlarged.

The cost of this site was five thousand dollars, divided into three payments, two of which will fall due in the two succeeding years.

The property could not have been purchased at that rate for private purposes ; and yet it would have been gratifying to the Trustees, if as elevated and yet level a site, as convenient and healthy, could have been purchased at a less expense.

The building on the premises, we have put to rent at \$110 per year.

By-laws and regulations have been adopted for the government of this Board, and of the Institute, which will be cheerfully submitted, together with all our proceedings, to the review of the Committees of the General Assembly on the Benevolent Institutions.

The inspection of the operations of the Institute by such Committee, and by the members of the Legislature generally, is very respectfully invited; and although it has been so recently commenced, and many of the scholars have thus been but a few weeks under training, it will give pleasure to the Trustees and Officers to have a public exhibition of the pupils, before the members of the General Assembly, at such time as may suit their convenience.

When it is considered, that the object of the Institute is not only to secure to the ignorant and helpless blind a good education and a fitness for self support, and thus give them happiness for their dependence, light for their darkness, and comfort for their destitution, but also, through their acquaintance with the Scriptures of truth, to point them to the knowledge of God, whom to know aright is life everlasting, and to an eternal home, where there is no night; and when it is realized that in the dealings of Providence, *any of our children*, now blessed with vision, may also be deprived of sight, and need the privileges of this Institute for their further training, we trust it will not be deemed unreasonable, in the Trustees, to solicit of the General Assembly, and through it, of the people of the State, the continuance of kind regard and fostering provision for this interesting object.

In other States, such efforts are generally sustained by urgent and repeated appeals to the humanity, sympathy and liberality of the respective Legislatures, but in Indiana is exhibited the grateful sight of a whole people cordially responding to the provisions of their General Assembly for the steady support of these benevolent efforts for their afflicted and helpless, by a direct and specific taxation; manifesting alike the just confidence reposed by the Legislature in the kind sympathies of the people of the State, and the generous cheerfulness, with which such appeal has been answered.

To add to the satisfaction, that the necessary expenditures can be so happily applied in the relief and cultivation of the afflicted, by availing of the inventions and improvements, which in the few past years have been made so successful in training the blind, is the grateful reflection, that in these deeds of mercy, we all have before us, in the path, the footsteps of Him, from whom, when upon earth, the blind were never sent away unblessed.

At an early date in the discharge of our duties, the Trustees regretted to be deprived of the assistance of Calvin Fletcher Esq., by his resignation.

Under the provisions of the law, constituting the Board, the vacancy was filled by the appointment of Seton W. Norris Esq., by whom the responsible duties of Treasurer, previously devolving on Mr. Fletcher, were undertaken, and his accompanying report will exhibit the disbursement of the sums drawn from the State Treasury by the Trustees on behalf of the Institute.

By the regulations of the Board, specific estimates of all anticipated wants of the Institute are required monthly of the Principal and each officer; and a strict and detailed account is required and filed at the expiration of each month, of the disbursement and receipts in each department.

For every thing connected with the Institute of more specific detail, we take pleasure in referring to the accompanying report of the acting Principal, Mr. Churchman, to the Board.

Respectfully submitted.

GEO. W. MEARS,	} Trustees.
S. W. NORRIS,	
JAMES M. RAY.	

Indianapolis, December 3d, 1847.



PRINCIPAL'S REPORT.

To the Trustees of the Indiana Institute for the Education of the Blind :

GENTLEMEN:—In conformity with a regulation of your Board which requires of the Principal an annual report, embracing an account of the condition and progress of the several departments of the Institute, of the course of instruction pursued, and of the advancement of its objects, the following is respectfully submitted :

Pupils.—The school department of the Institute was organized on the first Monday of October last, and the exercises commenced with nine pupils which number has since increased to twenty-five, fourteen of whom had previously been to the Institutions of Ohio and Kentucky as beneficiaries of the fund raised by revenue in this State for that purpose.

The appended catalogue exhibits their names and residences with the several dates of their admission.

Health.—Excepting a few instances, where pupils have entered the Institute with a predisposition to Fever and Ague, the health of our family has so far been good ; and the few cases alluded to have, by the timely advice of the visiting Physician, and judicious care of the Matron, been rendered slight and of short duration.

School Department.—The course and methods of instruction adopted in our school are for the most part, similar to those of the older institutions of our country. The branches of study introduced thus far, are as follows, viz: Spelling, Reading, Writing, Arithmetic, Geography, Grammar, Algebra and Music both Vocal and Instrumental. In all these branches our pupils are making commendable progress, and they will in due time be ready to commence others of a higher character.

Reading is taught by means of raised letters, which are traced with the fingers. Writing is performed with a lead pencil, the paper being placed upon a card containing a number of parallel grooves, in which the bodies of the letters are formed, in order that

they may be of uniform size, and that the lines be kept straight, as well as equidistant. The principles of Arithmetic and Algebra are taught orally, and the problems are solved either mentally, or with the aid of a metal frame and moveable figures, which answer as a substitute for the slate and pencil. Grammar and Geography are taught by familiar lectures; the latter being illustrated by maps, prepared especially for the purpose, by rendering the rivers, boundary lines, etc., tangible. The rudiments of Music are also taught by lectures; after acquiring which, the pupils learn their exercises and pieces by having the notes repeated to them until they are committed to memory.

There has been a plan invented for the printing of Music by Mr. M. Snider, printer of the Pennsylvania Institution, and several volumes of Church Music have been published. These are found very useful so far as they go; but the expense of printing in this way renders it impracticable at present to furnish for the blind any other than short pieces and those only of a standard character.

There is probably no branch of the study, belonging to the course pursued in the best institutions for the seeing, which is wholly beyond the reach of the blind student of good mental capacity where suitable means are provided for its acquisition. Our aim will be therefore, to give all our pupils the rudiments of a good English education, while those who evince an aptitude for teaching will receive a more extended course, with a view of preparing them for instructors in schools either for the blind or seeing. For notwithstanding the doubts expressed by a very respectable authority, and one which we would by no means underrate, we cannot but feel encouraged to hope that a sufficient number may be found in every school for the blind, who with proper training are capable of becoming successful teachers in some of the departments of instruction, to make it an object worthy of some attention. In Music particularly, many of the graduates of the older institutions have tried the experiment with an encouraging degree of success.

Music.—From the favorable commencement which has been made in this branch of the school department there is good reason to hope, that it will ere long become a source of much usefulness to the Institute, as well as to the pupils in their individual capacity. To the former as a valuable auxiliary in carrying out one of its highest objects, viz: the refining of the affections of the scholars, and as a means of interesting our numerous visitors; and to the latter as affording them an avocation by which they may gain a comfortable maintenance after leaving the Institute, as well as a source of much rational and innocent recreation during their leisure hours.

The instructor.—Mr. L. S. Newell, was educated at the Ohio Institution and, combining with a thorough knowledge of his profession, a happy faculty for imparting instruction, and a heartfelt interest in the welfare of his pupils, gives promise of valuable service to the Institute. Mr. N. also assists for the time being in the Literary branches, where his classes exhibit creditable progress.

All of our pupils study the rudiments of Music and attend the Vocal classes, and as many as are thought to be capable of becoming good performers receive lessons upon the Piano Forte, our object being to prepare them for teachers and organists, should they desire to engage in the profession of Music. Nine are at present practicing upon that instrument.

We have also commenced giving instruction to several of the male pupils upon other instruments, with a view at some future time of forming an Orchestra, so as to afford to those who expect to become teachers ample opportunity to acquire a knowledge of all the instruments in common use.

As Music is calculated in so eminent a degree to aid in ameliorating the condition of the blind, no efforts shall be wanting on our part to further the interests of this department of instruction.

Books.—Copies of all the works which have been printed for the use of the blind in this country, have been procured, so far as practicable, for the use of the pupils,—some being now out of print—of which the following is a list:

Three copies Holy Bible published in	- - -	8 vol.—24 vols.
Six copies New Testament,	- - -	2 vol.—12 vols.
Six copies Books of Psalms,	- - -	1 vol.—6 vols.
Two copies Pilgrim's Progress,	- - -	1 vol.—2 vols.
Two copies Baxter's Call,	- - -	1 vol.—2 vols.
Six copies Watt's Psalms and Hymns,	- - -	1 vol.—6 vols.
Three copies Book of Common Prayer,	- - -	1 vol.—3 vols.
Five copies Guide to Devotion,	- - -	1 vol.—5 vols.
Six copies Psalms and Hymns,	- - -	1 vol.—6 vols.
Six copies Book of Proverbs,	- - -	1 vol.—6 vols.
Six copies Ruth and Esther,	- - -	1 vol.—6 vols.
One copy Book of Mark,	- - -	1 vol.—1 vol.
Two copies Church Music,	- - -	3 vol.—6 vols.
Two copies Cyclopedia, (incomplete,)	- - -	3 vol.—6 vols.
Two copies Die Oesterreicher,	- - -	1 vol.—2 vols.
Six copies Rudiments of Natural Philosophy, in	- - -	1 vol.—6 vols.
Six copies Philosophy of Natural History, in	- - -	1 vol.—6 vols.
Two copies English Reader, in	- - -	2 vol.—4 vols.
Two copies Howe's Geography, in	- - -	1 vol.—2 vols.
Two copies Plane Geometry, in	- - -	1 vol.—2 vols.
Two copies Principles of Arithmetic, in	- - -	1 vol.—2 vols.
Two copies Viri Romae, in	- - -	1 vol.—2 vols.
Two copies Atlas of the United States, in	- - -	1 vol.—2 vols.
Two copies Murray's Grammar, in	- - -	1 vol.—2 vols.
Two copies Table of Logarithms, in	- - -	1 vol.—2 vols.
One copy Political Class Book, in	- - -	1 vol.—1 vol.
Four copies Harvey Boys, in	- - -	1 vol.—4 vols.
Six copies Philip Melancthon, in	- - -	1 vol.—6 vols.
Twelve copies Blind Child's First Book, in	- - -	1 vol.—12 vols.
Twelve copies Blind Child's Second Book, in	- - -	1 vol.—12 vols.
Twelve copies Blind Child's Manuel. in	- - -	1 vol.—12 vols.

Our thanks are due to the officers of the following societies for donations in books:

AMERICAN BIBLE SOCIETY.

Three copies Holy Bible, - - - - -	\$60 00
Three copies New Testament, - - - - -	15 00
Three copies Book of Psalms, - - - - -	4 50
One copy Holy Bible, (common print) - - - - -	2 50
	<hr/>
	<u>\$82 00</u>

AMERICAN TRACT SOCIETY.

One copy Pilgrims Progress, - - - - -	\$1 50
One copy Baxter's Call, - - - - -	1 25
One copy Sundry Works, (common print) - - - - -	7 25
	<hr/>
	<u>\$10 00</u>

EPISCOPAL BIBLE SOCIETY.

Three copies Book of Common Prayer, - - - - -	\$15 00
	<hr/>

PRESBYTERIAN BOARD OF PUBLICATION.

Five copies Guide to Devotion, - - - - -	\$15 00
	<hr/>

AMERICAN SUNDAY SCHOOL UNION.

Sundry small works (common print) - - - - -	\$15 00
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Work Department.—The male and female handicraft departments under the immediate direction of the Steward and Matron, assisted by Mr. Samuel McGiffin and Miss Sarah Marsh, have been organized with the care which their importance demands, and bid fair we think, to render valuable and efficient service to a large proportion of the pupils entrusted to our care.

Mr. McGiffin and Miss Marsh are graduates of the Pennsylvania Institution, and bring with them the highest testimonials as to moral worth and skill in their respective avocations. In addition to the valuable instruction which they will impart to our scholars their association with them will doubtless be productive of much good as affording a practical illustration of what may be acquired by persons laboring under a similar deprivation with themselves.

There has been as you are aware some unavoidable delay in procuring the necessary apparatus and material for the workshops, but we have now the pleasure of announcing that a beginning has been made in Brush-making and Basket-making. One or two other trades will probably be introduced before the close of the present session.

The female pupils have as yet been employed only at plain-sewing and a few kinds of knitting and bead work; but the variety of work will be increased as they acquire tact and experience, from practice in their more simple arts. Our policy will be, however, to confine their attention in a great measure to those occupations which will be likely to prove the most useful to them in after life, rather than those whose only use is to show the wonderful extent to which the tactual power may be cultivated.

When it is remembered that the Blind are, almost without exception, in quite limited circumstances and consequently dependant for a support upon their own exertions, and still further, that but a small proportion of them may hope for success in intellectual employments, the highly important character of this department of our Institute will be readily appreciated by your Board, and of course secure to it your warmest patronage and support.

In order to enable our pupils to compete with seeing Mechanics we cannot but expect to furnish them with every facility in our power for the thorough acquisition of their respective trades. The original cost of fitting out the workshops with their appropriate fixtures and tools is considerable, it is true, but after these are provided, the proceeds of the labor will go far towards defraying the current expenses for material and instruction.

As there are in most of the mechanic arts some processes, requiring sight for their proper execution, we are somewhat restricted in making selections for the Blind. But there have been found already and introduced into several institutions of our country, a sufficient number of useful trades, adapted to their capacity, to afford ample scope for the exercise of their ingenuity; and there are doubtless many others which will be suggested from time to time by experience.

The following are some of the principal branches of industry usually taught to the Blind, viz: to males, the manufacture of mattresses and cushions, willow baskets, carriages, cradles, &c., coarse carpeting, hearth-rugs and foot-mats, ropes, band-boxes, corn-brooms, shoes, many kind of brushes, etc., etc. To females, plain sewing, netting of shawls, comforts, reticules, etc., knitting of bed-quilts, polk coats, shirts, tidies, (covers for chair backs) doilies, hose, bags, purses, watch-guards, lace, etc., and the manufacture of many articles, both useful and ornamental, from bead and zephyr worsted; such as fancy card baskets, lamp mats, artificial flowers, necklaces, etc.

Some of the more difficult trades are also followed by a few persons of unusual ability, but not enough to render it expedient to in-

roduce them into schools for the blind. Indeed we have an account of one who constructed a Church Organ, of another who made a Piano Forte, and a third who followed the business of repairing Watches, besides many other similar instances, all of which go to exemplify the degree of skill in handicraft attainable by the blind under favorable circumstances.

Household Department.—The domestic economy of the establishment has thus far been managed with fidelity and judiciousness, both as to expenditures and an attention to the comfort and wants of the pupils; and it gives me great pleasure to bear testimony to the peculiar qualifications of the Steward and Matron for their respective stations, on whom the onerous duties of this department devolve. I have no hesitation in expressing my confidence in the realization of the anticipations of your board in their appointment.

The daily routine pursued by the pupils is as follows:

At half past 5 A. M. they rise at the ringing of the bell.

From quarter past 6 to 7 attend a Spelling Class.

At 7 take breakfast, after which the males exercise until quarter past 8, while the females attend to their rooms.

From quarter past 8 to 9 Religious exercises and lecture on general subjects.

From 9 to 10 Arithmetic and Algebra on alternate days.

Recess quarter of an hour.

From half past 11 to quarter past 12 Grammar and Geography on alternate days.

From quarter past 12 to 1 Reading and Writing.

At 1 take dinner and exercise until 2.

From 2 to half past 5 Instrumental Music and Handicraft.

At half past 5 take Supper.

From 7 to 8 Reading to the pupils from Historical, Biographical and other useful works.

At 8, 9, and 10 according to age retire to rest.

Department. Of the general deportment and moral conduct of the pupils, I am happy in being able to make a favorable report. Considering the unusual size of our school for one just beginning, and comprehending as it does such a diversity of ages and dispositions, we have reason to congratulate ourselves upon the good degree of order which prevails.

No pains is spared to promote the moral and religious, as well as the intellectual improvement of our pupils, and we are happy in the belief that our labors are not unsuccessful, for we conceive this to be by no means the least important part of their instructions.

We would not knowingly prepossess their minds in favor of the particular tenets of any religious society, yet we deem it necessary to their happiness, that they should be made acquainted with the fundamental principles of christianity: for it is only through the benign influences of the Gospel, that they become reconciled to their deprivation, and are made to feel that the Divine Being is both just

and merciful, though he in his infinite wisdom permits them to be thus afflicted while on earth.

The government of our school is strictly parental, the pupils being taught as far as possible to act from motives of duty and a sense of propriety, rather than from the fear of correction. Punishment of any kind is rarely resorted to, and never, excepting in cases of absolute necessity.

In commencing an enterprise like ours, it is incumbent upon those who are destined to act an important part in its future management, to avail themselves of all the light which can be brought to bear upon the subject, especially that afforded by the experience of older establishments of a similar kind: and it was with a sense of this truth that the undersigned was induced a few months since, previous to assuming the duties of his present responsible station, to make a visit to the Schools for the Blind in the eastern cities.

From an examination of these institutions, and an interchange of views with the officers, to whom I would return my sincere thanks for their kind attentions and co-operation in furtherance of the object of my visit, much encouragement was derived, and some long entertained views strengthened relative to the prevailing system of educating the Blind.

I cannot forbear, gentlemen, in concluding this brief account of the condition of our Institute, to express the hope that you will earnestly recommend to the General Assembly at its coming session, to make provision for the early erection of suitable buildings for its use. Though we occupy the largest and most appropriate building that can be rented in this place for the purpose, yet we find ourselves already embarrassed for want of room; and it is much to be feared that we will ere long be under the necessity of rejecting many worthy applicants from sheer inability to accommodate them. Besides the above consideration, there is yet another of vital importance in the management of our institute. I allude to the many difficulties in the way of proper government and discipline to which we must always be subject in a building of improper construction, arising out of our inability fully to classify the pupils with respect to age, sex and moral condition. It is for the training of the young blind especially, that such institutions are founded, though we are in many cases constrained by appeals of sympathy and benevolence to share its favors with those of more advanced age; and it is to the young alone that we must look for full success in our labors of amelioration and a consummation of the hopes of the philanthropists who originated and developed so noble a scheme for alleviating the misfortune of blindness. It is necessary then that these should be protected from all injurious associations; which can only be effected by the classification alluded to.

Respectfully submitted,
W. H. CHURCHMAN,
Acting Principal.

CATALOGUE OF PUPILS.

No.	Name.	Residence.	When admitted.	Cause of Blindness.
			1847.	
1	Aaron Gyger,	Lawrence Co.,	Oct.	1 Scarlet Fever.
2	Nelson W. Richhart,	Kosciusko	"	1 Congenital.
3	Susanna E. Richhart,	"	"	1 "
4	John M. Richhart,	"	"	1 "
5	Samuel F. Christie,	Scott	"	1 Fever.
6	Albertus Taylor,	Fountain	"	1 Congenital.
7	Daniel Byrkit,	Henry	"	1 "
8	John Byrkit,	"	"	1 "
9	William Jacobs,	Adams	"	5 Accident.
10	George O. Work,	Allen	"	5 Congenital.
11	Clarissa A. Marquart,	"	"	5 "
12	Isaac M. Easley,	"	"	5 Accident.
13	Lorenzo T. Tucker,	Jackson	"	6 Congenital.
14	James A. Tucker,	"	"	6 "
15	Eliza Kinnear,	Jefferson	"	6 Accident.
16	William E. Read,	Ohio	"	7 Congenital.
17	William H. McQuerry,	Hancock	"	7 Whooping Cough.
18	Lawrence D. Taylor,	Marshall	"	7 Inflammation.
19	William T. Fleming,	Howard	"	16 Fever.
20	Joshua Skidmore,	Vermillion	"	20 Chicken Pox,
21	Michael Courtney,	Decatur	"	Nov. 3 Congenital.
22	William H. Martin,	Washington	"	" 20 Ophthalmia.
23	George Culbertson,	Wayne	"	" 23 Fever.
24	William M. Catt,	Vanderburg	"	" 24 Congenital.
25	Margaret Belches,	Jefferson	"	" 25 Amanrosis.

STATE

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51	52	53	54	55	56	57	58	59	60
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TREASURER'S REPORT.

Dr.....S. W. NORRIS, *Treasurer of the Indiana Institute for the Education of the Blind*.....Cr.

1847.				1847.			
	To Cash of Treasurer of State. by Calvin Fletcher, Esq., late Treasurer, - - - - -	\$3,000		Feb. 21,	Paid William H. Churchman, on account of expenses as agent. - - - - -	\$220 00	
July 7,	To Cash received of Treasurer of State, - - - - -	500		"	Richard Price for the following purchases made by W. H. Churchman, ag't.	\$289 46	
Sept. 20,	To Cash received of do do	1,000			S. Jeans & Co. for Dry Goods, - - -	340	
Oct. 15,	" Cash received of do do	1,000			T. Loud for Pianos, - - - - -	81 25	
Nov. 9,	" Cash received of do do	500			Finley & Co. for hair for mattresses, -	43 50	
Dec. 3,	" Cash received of do do	500			Walter's bill for hardware, - - -	39 16	
					B. Dorsey & Co. for crockery, - - -	25	
					S. T. & T. T. Child for clock, - - -	70 53	
					J. L. Mott for School furniture, - - -	24 50	
					A. W. Harrison for maps, - - - - -	25 50	
					T. E. Chapman for books, - - - - -	19 50	
					Bible Society for books, - - - - -	2 75	
					American Tract Society for books, -	8	
					New York Institute for the blind, -	2	
					Oliver Evans for letter press, - - -	1 50	
					P. Nailor & Co. for model of roof, -	190 22	
					M. Snider bill No. 1 for tools, - - -	80 83	
					" " No. 2 in part, - - - - -	10 77	
					Insurance on goods, - - - - -		
					Freight and Portorage on goods from New York and Boston, - - - - -	5 83	
					Exchange of \$1,200, - - - - -	15 70	
							1,280 00
				May 24,	Paid A. Harrison for freight bill p'd by him,	64 21	
				July 8,	" J. Little & Co. for carpeting, - - -	51 60	
				" 12,	" A. Harrison for freight, - - - - -	33 44	
				Aug. 3,	" James Morrison, agent, for Sperring, Innes & Co., first payment on lot, -	1,537 50	
				" 11,	" A. Harrison for freight, - - - - -	12 92	
				" 21,	" A. W. Penniman for met. slates & exp's,	19	

Sept. 1,	Paid Mary Scudder for making ticking and matrasses, - - - - -	10 50	
" 10,	" William Moreham for hair for matras- ses, - - - - -	46 50	
" 11,	" J. B. McChesney for services as notary, -	1	
" 13,	" A. Harrison for freight, - - - - -	7 20	
" 14,	" A. Harrison for freight, - - - - -	2 50	
" 16,	" Espy & Sloan, cabinet bill, - - - - -	158 60	
" 20,	" Joseph I. Stretcher, furniture and chairs, -	177 13	
" 20,	" Thomas Donellan, bed-steads, - - - - -	135 75	
" 20,	" A. Loudon for erecting work shop, - - -	295	
" 20,	" J. D. Defrees for printing, - - - - -	3	
" 20,	" Livingston Dunlap for postage, - - - -	1 39	
Oct. 5,	" Mrs. M. Demoss for making carpets, comforts, &c., - - - - -	38 33	
" 5,	" Caleb Scudder, his account for cash paid for wood, and putting up fence for Institute, &c., - - - - -	191 04	
" 6,	" William H. Hanna, first quarter rent of premises for Institute, - - - - -	125	
" 13,	" W. H. Churchman, balance of allow- ance as agent, - - - - -	108 33	
" 13,	" W. H. Churchman, advanced for cur- rent monthly expenses, - - - - -	200	
" 13,	" W. H. Churchman, for sundry accounts paid by him of \$105 33, less cash re- ceived by him for merchandize sold \$69 60, leaving balance of - - - - -	35 37	
" 22,	" N. McCarty for blankets and sattinett, of which \$115 27 was sold, and is cre- dited below, - - - - -	170 38	
" 23,	" Martin Byrket for carpenter's work, -	62 37	
" 29,	" John Coen for painting, - - - - -	19 50	
" 30,	" Kellogg & Davidson for stoves and pipes, -	218 70	
Nov. 1,	" A. Harrison for freight, - - - - -	31 15	
" 6,	" Byrkit & Flack for carpenter's work, -	31 46	
" 13,	" A. Zuter for cristles, - - - - -	55 28	
" 13,	" George D. Hay for groceries, - - - -	71 54	

TREASURER'S REPORT—Continued.

Dr.....S. W. NORRIS, *Treasurer of the Indiana Institute for the Education of the Blind*.....Cr.

1847.		1847.	1847.
		Nov. 13, Paid M. Snyder balance on second bill of tools and materials, - - - - -	105 75
		" 13, " M. Snyder for advance of expenses to teachers, - - - - -	69 01
		" 13, " J. T. Chamberlain for willows and carpeting, - - - - -	75 25
		" 13, " W. H. Churchman advance for current monthly expenses, - - - - -	200
		Dec. 3, " C. & J. Cox for stoves and cooking apparatus, - - - - -	41 83
		" 3, " D. V. Culley for lumber for wood house and fence, - - - - -	53 53
		" 3, " Espy & Sloan for two tables, - - - - -	8
		" 3, " Chapmans & Spann for advertising, - - - - -	11 53
		" 3, " Charles B. Davis for account books and stationery, - - - - -	14 72
		" 3, " A. Harrison for freight, - - - - -	20 92
		" 3, " W. H. Churchman, sundry accounts, current expenses, - - - - -	110 94
		" 3, " J. D. Defrees for advertising and other printing, - - - - -	10 25
		" 3, " Martin Byrket for benches and fixtures in work shop, - - - - -	65 42
		\$6,500 00	
Dec. 3,	To balance on hand, - - - - -	\$296 80	\$6,203 20
	To credits to the Institute for sundry articles disposed of, but cash not yet received, - - - - -	\$139 27	296 80
	Which deducted from expenditures, - - - - -	6,203 20	\$6,500 00
	Leaves the nett expenditure, - - - - -	\$6,063 93	
			S. W. NORRIS, Treasurer.



